

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 032938

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 160

FOLLOWING REPEAT USINFO WASHDC (TAKE THREE OF THREE) ACTION

SECSTATE INFO WHITE HOUSE DATED 12 FEB 75

QUOTE

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STATE OPS CENTER FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY TO DAVID GOMPERT
FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

SECRETARY'S MIDDLE EAST TRIP - III (TAKE THREE OF THREE)

BRUSSELS:

SOCIALIST VOLKSGAZET SAID WEDNESDAY THAT "THE ISSUE FOR KISSINGER
IS TO FIND THE COMMON DENOMINATOR BETWEEN JERUSALEM AND CAIRO. AT
THIS POINT IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW HE CAN SUCCEED IN HIS ATTEMPT.
THERE ARE DIPLOMATIC LIMITS TO THE OPPORTUNITIES OF EVEN A MIRACLE
MAN. SO IS IT BACK TO GENEVA UNDER AMERICAN-RUSSIAN AUSPICES?...DR.
KISSINGER IS REALLY NOT TO BE ENVIED AS HE ATTEMPTS RAPPROCHEMENT."

STOCKHOLM:

MODERATE SVENSKA DAGBLADET SAID "THERE IS MUCH SENSE IN THE
ARGUMENT FAVORING A DIRECT SHIFT TO THE PEACE CONFERENCE, BUT SURELY
THERE ARE OVERWHELMING REASONS FOR CONTINUED NEGOTIATION BY KISSINGER
IN SEARCH OF AT LEAST ANOTHER PARTIAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND
ISRAEL." MEANWHILE, "THE RUSSIANS, HAVING FELT OUTDONE BY THE U.S.
IN THE MIDDLE EAST, CAN BE EXPECTED TO PUT THE AMERICANS IN AN
EXTREMELY DIFFICULT DILEMMA."

LIBERAL GOTEBORGS-POSTEN SAID "EXTREMELY POOR" EGYPT "FEARS
ANOTHER ARAB-ISRAELI WAR AND HAS KEPT COOL TO SOVIET DEMANDS FOR A
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PAGE 02 STATE 032938

GENEVA CONFERENCE. THIS ATTITUDE MIGHT SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR

AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL, WHICH KISSINGER WILL GO ALL-OUT FOR IN THE COMING DAYS."

VALLETTA:

THE TIMES OF MALTA SAID WEDNESDAY THAT "THIS LATEST ATTEMPT AT MEDIATION IS AS WELCOME AS IT IS NECESSARY IF ANY POSITIVE STEP TOWARDS ACHIEVING THIS ELUSIVE GOAL (OF PEACE) IS TO BE RECORDED... PRESIDENT FORD HAS VOICED CONFIDENCE IN DR. KISSINGER...AND SAID HE HOPED THE SECRETARY OF STATE WOULD HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE....THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAS EMBARKED UPON NEGOTIATIONS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE AND CERTAINLY DESERVES THE BACKING OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WHO, IN THEIR MAJORITY, UPHOLD HIS EFFORTS TOWARDS PEACE."

TOKYO:

COMMERCIAL TBS TELEVISION STATED WEDNESDAY, "AS A RESULT OF THE KISSINGER-RABIN TALKS, OPTIMISTIC VIEWS ARE CIRCULATING IN BEIRUT ON THE PROSPECTS FOR SEPARATION OF FORCES BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL." WEDNESDAY'S LIBERAL ASAHI WROTE THAT "A NEGOTIATIONS SOURCE STATED THAT THERE SEEMS TO BE A BIG GAP BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ISRAEL ON THE PROBLEM OF WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM THE MITLA AND GIDI PASSES AND THE ABU RUDEIS OIL FIELDS." INDEPENDENT MODERATE MAINICHI SAID WEDNESDAY THAT "IF A COMPROMISE AGREEMENT IS REACHED BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT ON THE SECOND WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM SINAI THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF REOPENING THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE , WHICH IS DESIRED BY THE SOVIET UNION."

MANILA:

THE NATIONALISTIC BULLETIN TODAY RAN A BYLINER'S CONTENTION THAT "ONE MERIT IN SECRETARY KISSINGER'S APPROACH TO SOLVING THE IMPASSE IN THE MIDDLE EAST LIES IN THE POSSIBILITY THAT HE CAN BREAK NEW GROUND AS HE TALKS WITH THE LEADERS SEPARATELY. IN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, ONE IS FACED BY THE ARABS AS A BLOC. IN SUCH A CONFERENCE, NEGOTIATION IS MADE DIFFICULT BECAUSE FINE DISTINCTIONS IN SENTIMENT AND ATTITUDE AMONG ARAB LEADERS ARE LOST. THERE IS LESS ROOM FOR FLEXIBILITY. THIS COULD, THEN, BE ONE REASON FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER'S FAITH IN THE SO-CALLED STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH..."

NEW DELHI:

AN ALL INDIA RADIO CORRESPONDENT IN BEIRUT TERMED THE SECRETARY'S MISSION "CRUCIAL" AND ALLEGED THAT PRESIDENT SADAT "SEEMS TO HAVE SET HIS HEART ON GETTING THE OIL FIELDS FROM ISRAEL." IN THE CORRESPONDENT'S VIEW, EGYPT COULD NOT BE A PARTY TO A WRITTEN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 032938

DECLARATION OF NON-BELLIGERENCY AS ISRAEL INSISTS. "THE OPTIONS BEFORE ISRAEL," HE MAINTAINED, "SEEM TO BE GETTING RESTRICTED, AND PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO SETTLE WITH THE ARABS SEEMS TO BE INCREASING... ONE HOPES THAT DR. KISSINGER IN HIS TALKS WITH THE ISRAELI LEADERS WILL HELP THEM MAKE THE NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS...OTHERWISE THE SCENE OF WEST ASIAN POLITICS WOULD SHIFT TO GENEVA."

BLANTYRE:

THE MALAWI DAILY TIMES REMARKED WEDNESDAY THAT "THE EFFORTS OF

SECRETARY KISSINGER, WHO IS IN THE MIDDLE EAST FOR A NEW ROUND OF TALKS ...ARE WORTHY OF PRAISE," ALTHOUGH "REPORTS FROM CAIRO INDICATE THAT DR. KISSINGER WILL FIND HIS TASK TOUGH WHEN HE ARRIVES THERE TODAY, ACCORDING TO THE EGYPTIAN SEMI OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER AL-AHRAM. THIS WOULD BE BECAUSE OF EGYPT'S INSISTENCE THAT ISRAEL WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS FROM THE SYRIAN AND JORDANIAN FRONT AS WELL AS THE EGYPTIAN FRONT." THE PAPER SAID "THIS INSISTENCE APPEARS TO BE UNREASONABLE AND COULD MAKE ISRAEL HARDEN ITS POSITION."

NAIROBI:

WEDNESDAY'S DAILY NATION HELD THAT THE MAIN STUMBLING BLOCK TO MR. KISSINGER'S MIDDLE EAST EFFORTS WAS THE "LACK OF MANDATE" FROM BOTH THE ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN SIDES. HOWEVER, THE PAPER SAID, "THERE IS STILL REASON TO HOPE THAT DR. KISSINGER CONCENTRATES NOT SO MUCH ON THE MISSION OF DEFUSING EXPLOSIVES, URGING COMMITMENTS TO WITHDRAWALS

, OR ATTEMPTING TO SCORE VICTORIES FOR THE GOOD NAME OF THE U.S., BUT ON LAYING FIRM FOUNDATIONS FOR A MAJOR GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE."

MOSCOW:

MOSCOW RADIO ARABIC SERVICE REPORTED TUESDAY THAT IZVESTIA CARRIED A BEIRUT DISPATCH SAYING THE U.S. "IS ACTIVELY AND INCREASINGLY TRYING TO CONSOLIDATE ITS PRESENCE IN THE ARABIAN PENINSULA AND THE GULF REGIONS AND THAT A DETACHMENT OF U.S. FORCES IS BEING SENT TO SAUDI ARABIA. THE MAIN AIM OF THE U.S. SOLDIERS IS THE PROTECTION OF THE OIL FIELDS WHICH BELONG TO THE U.S. OIL COMPANIES AND THE SAUDI MILLIONAIRES...THE PRESENCE OF THE FOREIGN MERCENARY SOLDIERS IN THE COUNTRY CONSTITUTES A GREAT THREAT TO ITS INTERESTS. THE U.S. PRESS REPORTS THAT U.S. OFFICERS ARE TALKING ABOUT THE DESERT AS BEING A FIELD FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS."

ANOTHER ARABIC BROADCAST SAID IZVESTIA QUOTED THE MANCHESTER GUARDIAN AS CONFIRMING THAT "AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE U.S. AND SULTAN QABUS OF OMAN...THIS AGREEMENT AIMS AT SUPPRESSING THE REVOLUTION IN OMAN AND AT USING THE BASE FOR CARRYING OUT OPERATIONS OF THE SO-CALLED DEFENSE OF THE OIL RESOURCES
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 04 STATE 032938

IN SAUDI ARABIA. THE PENTAGON'S ACTIVITY AT THE IMPORTANT STRETEGIC POINTS IN THE GULF REGION CONSTITUTES A DIRECT THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION." (END TAKE THREE)

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